



NOV 27 2002

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
Minnesota Innovative Properties Company
PO Box 33427
St. Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427
651/733-1500

PATENT

Case No.: 53091US009

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal

Box RCE
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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DEC 02 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

First Named Inventor: Wei, Ai-Ping

Application No. : 09/448633

Group Art Unit: 1631

Filed: November 24, 1999

Examiner: M. Moran

Title: FLUOROGENIC PROTEASE SUBSTRATES BASED ON DYE-DIMERIZATION

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

HHL

Plunkett

12/4/02

1. Submission required under 37 CFR § 1.114

- a. Previously submitted
- i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR § 1.116 previously filed on (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)
 - ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
 - iii. Other
- b. Enclosed
- i. Amendment/Reply
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/Supplemental IDS
 - iv. Other

2. A Request for Extension of Time is being filed concurrently

3. Fees (The RCE fee under 37 CFR § 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.)

- a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees or credit any overpayments to:
Deposit Account No. 13-3723. A duplicate copy of this letter for fees processing is enclosed.
- i. RCE fee required under 37 CFR § 1.17(e)
 - ii. Other

Respectfully submitted,

Signature

Printed Name: Melanie Gover

Reg. No.:	Telephone No.:
41,793	651-736-6432
Date:	November 20 2002

Signature
Printed Name: Melanie Gover

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated below:

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Date: November 20 2002

11/29/2002 MBP/EL1 0000092 13723 09448633
11/29/2002 740.00 CH
01 Fct:1001



Patent
Docket No: 53091US009

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE **RECEIVED**

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In re Application of:

Ai-Ping Wei et al.

Serial No.: 09/448,633

Filed: November 24, 1999

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For: FLUOROGENIC PROTEASE SUBSTRATES BASED ON DYE-DIMERIZATION

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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Nov 20 2002
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Melanie Gover
Signature: Melanie Gover

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Official Action having a mailing date of June 3, 2002.

AMENDMENTS

In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (thrice amended) A method of biological assay comprising:

- a) providing an enzyme substrate comprising two or more identical fluorescence dye groups bound to a flexible peptide comprising one or more enzymatically cleavable bonds, the dye groups being drawn together by free energy attractions such that the dye groups self-quench their fluorescence by dye stacking or dimerization, and
- b) contacting said substrate with a substance being assayed to determine the presence of an enzyme capable of cleaving an enzymatically cleavable bond wherein the enzymatic cleaving of said cleavable bond of the peptide will release

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